

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 SAM-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3188

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0055

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EAID, OREP, MZ, PO

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE: CALL ON PORTUGUESE HIGH COMMISSIONER

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

REF: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES 040 (B) STATE 0926 (C) STATE 9479

1. IN CALL ON HIGH COMMISSIONER CRESPO TODAY AT MY REQUEST,
I TOLD HIM THAT MY CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON IN EARLY
JANUARY HAD BEEN MOST USEFUL AND STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN
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NO CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY TOWARD PORTUGUESE AFRICA SINCE I

HAD SEEN HIM ON DEC. 10. AS AN EXAMPLE I CITED THE STATEMENT BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON JANUARY 16 WHICH WELCOMED THE AGREEMENT ON ANGOLA REACHED AT ALVOR AND STATED THAT U.S. "CONTINUES TO BE PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS TOWARD MAJORITY RULE IN THE PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES". CRESPO EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION OF MY ASSURANCES RE U.S. POLICY TOWARD PORTUGUESE AFRICA, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS COMMENTARY ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM'S TRANSFER WHICH HE SAID HAD CAUSED CONCERN HERE AND THROUGHOUT AFRICA.

2. RE MOZAMBIQUE, I INFORMED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT THERE CONTINUED TO BE GREAT INTEREST IN MOZAMBIQUE ON THE PART OF THE USG AND THAT THE ECONOMIC NEEDS OF MOZAMBIQUE WERE STILL UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRESS. IN THIS CONNECTION, I STATED THAT IMPORTANT VISITORS WOULD BE COMING TO MOZAMBIQUE IN THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD, INFORMING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE CODEL DIGGS VISIT. I ASSURED HIM I HAD ASKED THAT THE PORTUGUESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BE MADE AWARE OF THIS VISIT. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS WOULD NO DOUBT WISH TO CALL ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND SEE AS WIDE A SPECTRUM OF MOZAMBICANS AS POSSIBLE. AT THIS POINT, CRESPO URGED THAT WE PURSUE THE CODEL DIGGS VISIT IN TWO DIFFERENT CHANNELS: FIRST WITH THE PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES, AS WE WERE DOING, WHICH WOULD COVER NORMAL DIPLOMATIC PURPOSES; SECOND, HE STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT, SINCE THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE HAS NO FORMAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHANNEL OF ITS OWN, THAT WE DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH FRELIMO LEADERS IN DAR-ES-SALAAM. HE STRESSED THIS WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE VISIT.

3. ALSO TOOK THE OCCASION TO INFORM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE VISIT OF THE PHELPS-STOKES GROUP LED BY FRANKLIN WILLIAMS.

4. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING, CRESPO SAID THE SITUATION IN MOZAMBIQUE HAD REMAINED CALM (DURING THE PERIOD OF MY ABSENCE) BUT THAT THE ECONOMIC SITUATION WAS SERIOUS. I RE-ITERATED THAT MY GOVERNMENT WAS FOLLOWING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION HERE CLOSELY BUT I DID NOT TELL HIM ABOUT THE AID STUDY TEAM VISIT, SINCE NO CLEARANCE HAD AS YET BEEN RECEIVED

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FROM LISBON. (I ALSO DID NOT MENTION THE PROPOSED DESTROYER VISIT FEB 8-9.) CRESPO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF U.S. INTEREST IN THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, BUT STRESSED THAT TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE, SINCE CONTINUED FOOD SHORTAGES COULD LEAD TO SERIOUS UNREST.

5. ACTION RECOMMENDED: REQUEST DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE AMBASSADOR CARTER TO INFORM FRELIMO OFFICIALS OF CODEL DIGGS

(AND PHELPS-STOKES GROUP) VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE. WHILE I TEND
TO DOUBT THAT PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO WOULD SNUB VISITING
AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN, IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO
APPROACH HIM PRIOR TO ABOVE STEP FOR REASONS OF WHICH
DEPARTMENT IS WELL AWARE. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND, THEREFORE,
THAT WE FOLLOW HIGH COMMISSIONER'S ADVICE.
WALKER

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